

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church

Archdiocese of Galveston – Houston

5102 Dabney St. Houston, TX 77026

Phone 713-672-7773

Email: stfrancisofassisihouston@gmail.com Website: stfrancisofhouston.org



St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church



St. Francis of Assisi Parish
is served by
The Missionary Society of St. Paul
of Nigeria

Our Parish Vision

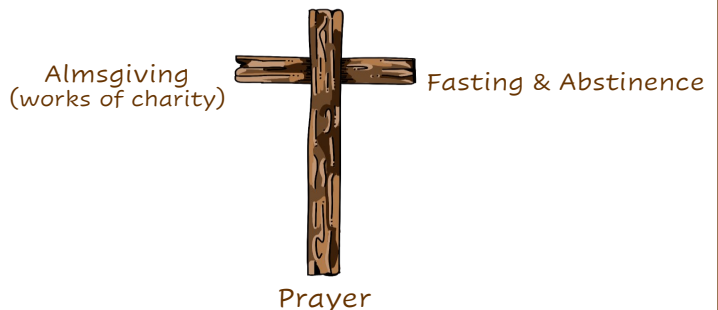
We envision a caring, loving community of men, women and children who possess a genuine Christian concern for one another, a unified family where the members, aware of God's presence in each of them and led by His spirit are able to work, pray and play together; a faith filled community where gospel values are studied, lived, nurtured, shared and celebrated; a community of individuals and groups traveling together on a common faith journey; a community harmoniously working for the kingdom; a community that is active in service and evangelization.

PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
and where there is sadness, joy.
O Divine Master, grant that I may
not so much seek to be consoled, as to console;
to be understood, as to understand;
to be loved, as to love;
for it is in giving that we receive;
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.
Amen.

St. Francis of Assisi Parish Marian Chapel 4th Sunday of Lent, Year B March 10, 2024

Repentance



Stations of the Cross Schedule Fridays @ 6:30 PM

(in person, live streamed & tele-conference)

- February 16** Instrument of Peace Choir and El Shaddai
- February 23** Audio-Visual, Liturgical Movement, Ushers, Environment & Sacred Space, Second Family Care Team and Altar Society
- March 1** Lectors, CCE Teachers, & candidates, Stewardship, and Associate Missionaries of St. Paul
- March 8** Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist and Sisters In the Spirit
- March 15** Knights of Peter Claver, Ladies, Jr. Knights & Daughters, and Youth Ministry
- March 22** Hope, Love, & Joy, Samaritan Ministry and Hospitality

Living Stations of the Cross & The Lord's Passion
Good Friday, March 29, 2024 @ 4:00 PM

Need information and don't know who to call?

Here is a listing of our Ministry leaders who are always willing to help!

Parish Office - 713-672-7773
Fr. Martin Eke, MSP, Pastor - 713-672-7773
Stephanie White, Parish Secretary - 713-672-7773
Deacon John Goodly - 713-628-9989
Deacon Ignatius Joseph (Retired) - 281-745-3005
Deacon Michael St. Julian (Retired) - 713-256-8657

MASS SCHEDULE

Daily Mass Monday - Saturday 7:00 AM
(Marian Chapel, Teleconference Line & Zoom)

WEEKEND MASS

Saturday Mass 5:00 PM
Sunday Mass 8:00 AM
Sunday Mass 11:00 AM

The link is:

<https://www.facebook.com/1familyonelove/>

Dial In Number

Dial in Number: 425-436-6368 • Access code: 579460#

BIBLE STUDY

Wednesday at 6:00 PM
Dial In Number: 425-436-6368
Access code: 579460#

ROSARY

Monday - Friday at 8:00 PM
Teleconference Line Dial in Number: 425-436-6368
Access Code: 579460#

Zoom Link: [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84919189256?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84919189256?pwd=Mm5oWlVQMUVzSWlDTEFWR0F4bGF2UT09)
[pwd=Mm5oWlVQMUVzSWlDTEFWR0F4bGF2UT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84919189256?pwd=Mm5oWlVQMUVzSWlDTEFWR0F4bGF2UT09)

Zoom Dial In Number: 346-248-7799
Meeting ID: 849 1918 9256 / **Pass Code:** 618049

ROSARY & BENEDICTION

Sunday at 10:25 AM
Dial in Number: 425-436-6368 / Access Code: 579460#

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 4:25 PM to 4:45 PM & by appointment

Altar Servers

Ronald Berard
713-299-4024

Altar Society

Mary Robertson
832-790-8124

Associate Missionaries of St. Paul (AMSP)

Ms. Onari Guidry
713-633-7728

Audio/Visual

Bonita Taylor
713-252-2028

Bazaar Committee

Carla Lewis 713-534-3927
Mark Davis 713-498-6112

Coordinator of Religious Education

Mrs. Jamie Williams
832-236-7316

Daughters of Divine Love

832-445-0241

Disaster Response Committee

Paul Sloan
281-734-7289

El Shaddai Ministry

Joyce Ramos
832-797-0450

Environment & Sacred Space

Abel Rodriguez
713-658-5198

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Dr. Clarice Campbell
281-919-8563

Faith Alive Youth Ministry

David Mouton 832-236-5116
Jorri Odom

Finance Council

Mrs. Adrian Sloan
281-831-8572

Hope, Love, & Joy Seniors

Ella Ledet
713-927-1073

Hospitality

Frances Baldwin
713-674-1629

Knights of Peter Claver Council #231

Grand Knight Kirk Chargois
832-453-6226

Knights of Peter Claver

Ladies Auxiliary Court #231

Grand Lady
Diana Carmon-Jones
713-969-7586

Knights of Peter Claver

Junior Knights

Charles LaVigne
832-887-4880

Knights of Peter Claver

Junior Daughters

Chiquita Easley
713-545-7047

Lectors

Dorothy Webb
832-567-4742

Liturgy Committee

Matt Matthews
832-423-9335

Liturgical Movement

Dena Lavigne
832-245-1846

Minister of Music

Matt Matthews
832-423-9335

Pastoral Council

Donna Pierson
713-304-1322

Samaritan Ministry/Funeral Repast

Mary Robertson
832-790-8124

Second Family Care Team

Rita Bernard
832-457-9465

Sisters in the Spirit

Evelyn Wright
713-385-6607

Stewardship Committee

Antoinette Goodly
281-710-4883

Ushers

John Mathis
832-477-0999

BAPTISM

For Infants: Baptism Preparation (Parents & Godparents), contact Parish Office one month prior to getting the child baptized.

For Children, ages 6-15, Youth, and Adults contact Parish Office. Youth and adult Baptism is done on Easter only.

MARRIAGES

A minimum of six months preparation is required. Contact the pastor before setting the date.

FUNERALS

The death of a loved one can be a trying and unpredictable time. Before any arrangements are made for funerals, please call the parish office to schedule a time to meet with the pastor.

Diocesan Services Fund (DSF) 2024

Parish Goal: \$24,000.00
Total Amount Paid: \$5,706.00
Total Number of Participants: 13
Percent Paid: 0.24%



Sacrificial Offerings

March 3, 2024

Offerings (Mail In / Drop Off)	\$1,559.00
Offerings (Mass)	\$5,068.90
Online Giving Offerings	\$365.00
<u>Zelle Offerings</u>	<u>\$1,741.00</u>
Total	\$8,733.90

Thank you for your generosity
May God bless you



Annie Marie Joubert, Mercedes Arline, Amelie Marie Murphy, Dorothy Meyers, Gustavia LaBlanc, Joseph Gallagher, Joel Richards, Sr., Anna Bell Lewis, Barbara Calhoun, Enola Zenon, Lester White, Emma Filer, Earl M. Robertson, Martin T. Rachal, Jr., Raymond St. Julian, Allen St. Julian, Alsie Gee, Winnie Malveaux, Marie Grace Moran, Myrtle St. Julien, Julie Lyman, Mrs. Barbara Lewis, Rita Lewis, Wilfred Lambey, Stan Martinez, Patricia Davis, Brother Mike Velarde, Eula Broussard, Donald Morgan.

YOUR WORD IS A LAMP FOR MY FEET, AND A LIGHT FOR MY PATH (Psalm 119:105)

Homily of Fourth Sunday of Lent, Year B, 2024

2 Chronicles 36:14-16; 19-23; Psalm 137:1-6; Ephesians 2:4-10; John 3:14-21

The Fourth Sunday of Lent is called *Laetare* Sunday. *Laetare* is a Latin word that means 'Rejoice.' Amid our Lenten penance, *Laetare* Sunday puts us in hopeful expectation of the Easter joy. Today's Mass entrance antiphon is, "Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who were in mourning; exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast" (Isaiah 66:10-11).

The first reading is what happened to the people of Israel when they turned away from God and continued to sin. "All the princes of Judah, the priests, and the people added infidelity to infidelity, practicing all the abominations of the nations and polluting the Lord's temple...The Lord ... sent messengers to them ... But they mocked the messengers of God, despised their warnings, and scoffed at his prophets ..." They moved away from God and fell into the hands of their enemies who conquered them. "Their enemies burned down the house of God, tore down the walls of Jerusalem, set all the palaces afire, and destroyed all its precious objects. Those who escaped the sword were carried captive to Babylon ..." This is a story of sin and the consequence of refusal to repent.

The consequence of the rejection of God by the people of Israel happens to anyone and any people who turn away from God and turn to evil. This explains the reasons for so much disintegration in our homes, society, and world. Underdevelopment, poverty, hunger, sickness, hardship, migration, and so on are consequences of the sins of the 'princes' (rulers), the priests (religious leaders), and the people. God has not designed or ascribed impoverishment and suffering to any group of people or any part of the world. The Book of Wisdom 1:12-16 says, "... God did not make death nor does he rejoice in the destruction of the living. For he fashioned all things that they might have being, and the creatures of the world are wholesome. ... It was the wicked who, with hands and words, invited death"

God admonishes us through Prophet Ezekiel, "I do not want the wicked to die but rather that they turn from their evil ways and live" (Ezekiel 33:11). And in 2 Chronicles 7:14 God says, "And my people who bear my name humble themselves, and pray and look for me, and turn from their wicked ways, then I myself will hear from heaven and forgive their sins and restore their land."

The first reading tells us that after seventy years, the Persians conquered the Babylonian Empire, and surprisingly, King Cyrus of Persia released the people of Israel to return to their land. Jesus is the new King Cyrus, who has redeemed us and sets us free from captivity and enslavement caused by sin and evil. In this fourth week of Lent, we are invited to examine ourselves to see if we are held captive and enslaved either by sin or weakness or concerns of life; and turn to Jesus to free and liberate us. He tells us to prefer him, the Light, instead of darkness. He says, "And this is the verdict, that the light came into the world, but people preferred darkness to light, because their works are evil" (John 3:19). It must not be so with us.

St. Paul in the second reading says, "God who is rich in mercy, because of the great love he had for us [his handiwork], even when we were dead in our transgressions, brought us to life with Christ..." (Ephesians 2:4). Jesus says in the Gospel, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him" (John 3:16-17).

In today's gospel, Nicodemus has something to teach us. He was a Jewish leader, but his desire for the Light kept him restless and sleepless. Who knows how long he was in this state? On that particular night, he could no longer hold back or even wait for daybreak. While others were sleeping and may be some others were having good times, he went in search of the Light. He found the Light and became part of our salvation story. Later in John 7:51, as a changed man, he reminded other Jewish leaders who wanted Jesus arrested of law, "Does our law condemn a man without first hearing him to find out what he has been doing?" He helped Joseph of Arimathea to bury Jesus. He brought a costly mixture of myrrh and aloes that weighed about 100 pounds (45kg), which was used to prepare Jesus' body for burial (John 19:39-40).

What keeps me restless and sleepless? Is the desire for the Light part of it, or is it completely the concerns of life, or is it the desire to sin? Like Nicodemus, can I be a voice of truth in times of falsehood?

Jesus welcomed Nicodemus when he came to him at night. This means that Jesus is ever-ready waiting to welcome us.

Fr. Martin Eke, MSP

MASS INTENTIONS



Saturday, March 9, 2024 † Souls in Purgatory requested by A Friend	7:00 AM
Saturday, March 9, 2024 (Vigil Mass) St. Francis of Assisi Parishioners Living & Deceased	5:00 PM
Sunday, March 10, 2024 † Gene Anthony Phillips requested by The Phillips Family Labrie & Sloan Families Living & Deceased requested by Paul & Gloria Sloan † Bertha & † Lawrence Sweet & † Bessie Clement requested by Eugene & Stephanie White	8:00 AM
Sunday, March 10, 2024 † Msgr. Innocent Onyewuanyi requested by Ngozi Oleru † Ira Wilson requested by Joyce Wilson & Family † Virgis Wiltz requested by Friends & Family	11:00 AM
Monday, March 11, 2024 Christelle Kamssu (in thanksgiving for God's family blessings)	7:00 AM
Tuesday, March 12, 2024 Private Intention	7:00 AM
Wednesday, March 13, 2024 Private Intention	7:00 AM
Thursday, March 14, 2024 Private Intention	7:00 AM
Friday, March 15, 2024 Private Intention	7:00 AM

OFFERINGS & DONATIONS: Weekly Offerings and Donations may be mailed, dropped off at the parish or completed online through **ParishSOFT Giving** or **Zelle**. Weekly offerings and/or donations dropped at the parish or put in the rectory's mail box. The mail box is safe because it has a lock. The church gate opens daily at 9:00 AM and closes at 5:00 PM.

Online offerings and/or donations may be made through:

ParishSOFT Giving:

- <https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/stfrancisofassisi>

Zelle:

- Email: stfrancisofassisihouston@gmail.com

Good Friday Living Stations of the Cross is in need of several cast members to participate. *All ages are welcome, including our young people.* If you are interested in participating you may contact Charles and Dena Lavigne at 832-245-1846 or Matt Matthews at 832-423-9335. Practice will be on Saturday, March 16th at 10:00 am on the church grounds (weather permitting) or in the hall.

St. Francis of Assisi's annual Crawfish Festival is Sunday, April 14th

Volunteers Needed - your time and service will be greatly appreciated

Sign up using the sheets on the information table or this

link <https://signup.com/go/MDAEshg>.

You may contact Kimberly White via text at 832-969-8041 or anyone on the Crawfish Planning Committee for additional information.

Please join the priests and the Associates of the Missionary Society of St. Paul for their 13th Annual "Walk 4 the Missions" at Tom Bass Park (Pavilion 4/Cullen St. entrance) on Saturday, April 13, 2024. *Walk to empower weak and disadvantaged young people through education.* Registration begins at 8 AM and the walk begins at 9 AM. Registration fees: \$20.00 adult; \$10.00 child. Register by April 1, 2024 to be guaranteed an official T-Shirt. Register online at www.mspfathers.org. Registration forms are on the information table or you may contact Ms. Onari Guidry at 713-633-7728 or Carlette Ledet at 713-927-1705.

Pope Francis' March 2024 Prayer Intention

For New Martyrs. Let us pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world might imbue the Church with their courage and missionary drive.

Vocation Events

<https://houstonvocations.com/events>

For additional information and events visit link above or call **713-652-8239**

Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Time
February 16, 2024 To March 22, 2024 Fridays during Lent	Stations of the Cross In Person Live Streamed Teleconference Line	6:30 PM
March 16, 2024 Saturday	Lenten Confession	10 AM - 12 PM
March 24, 2024	Palm Sunday For 11am Mass procession begins from the hall parking lot to church @ 10:40 AM	Masses 5:00 PM 8:00 AM 11:00 AM
March 28, 2024	Holy Thursday	Mass - 6:00 PM
March 28, 2024	Holy Thursday Adoration (see schedule below)	7:30 PM - 11:30 PM
March 30, 2024	Holy Saturday	Mass - 6:00 PM
March 31, 2024	Easter Sunday	Mass - 10:00 AM
April 14, 2024 Sunday	Crawfish Festival	12 Noon to 8:00 PM

Holy Thursday Adoration Schedule

Ministry & Organization Leaders, please note that the *Rosary will be prayed at the beginning of each hour*

7:30 PM - 8:30 PM	Instrument of Peace Choir, El Shaddai, Hope, Love, & Joy Seniors, Samaritan Ministry, Hospitality, Sacred Space, Second Family Care Team, Altar Society
8:30 PM - 9:30 PM	Audio-Visual, Liturgical Movement, Environment & Sacred Space, Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist, Sisters in the Spirit, Lectors, CCE Teachers, & candidates, Stewardship, Associate Missionaries of St. Paul
9:30 PM - 10:30 PM	Knights of Peter Claver, Ladies Auxiliary, Jr. Knights, Jr. Daughters, Youth Ministry, Ushers & others
10:30 PM - 11:30 PM	Fr. Martin, Finance Council, Pastoral Council & anyone who wishes to join

ALTAR SOCIETY - EASTER LILIES: Easter Lilies in memory and/or honor of a loved one to decorate the altar can be ordered at \$10.00 each. Seventy-Five lilies were ordered and will be reserved on a first come first serve basis. Order forms are on the information table. Order forms and payments may be put in the collection basket, mailed, dropped off, or put in the parish office or the rectory's mail box. All orders must be received by Sunday, March 17, 2024. For more information you may contact Mrs. Mary Robertson at 832-790-8124 or the parish office.

KPC 231 - Lenten Fish Fry: Fridays during Lent - 10 AM to 7 PM

Dinners: 2-piece fried fish dinner - \$13.00; crawfish etouffee (w/rice) dinner - \$14.00; combo plate with 1 piece of fried fish and crawfish etouffee - \$16.00; one piece of fried fish - \$4.00; soda or water - \$1.00 each. All dinners are served with potato salad, green beans, bread, and cake. The fundraiser benefits Knights of Peter Claver Council and Court 231 and St. Francis of Assisi Parish. *Your patronage and support is sincerely appreciated.*

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Patricia Ouzenne
Office Manager

Commercial & Residential
BANK APPROVED CONTRACTOR



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